



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

October - 2015 Volume 15, Issue 10

Bureau of Community Health Systems

Susan Mosier, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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KPHA Recognizes Public Health Professionals at Annual Conference

by Becky Tuttle, Award Nomination Chair, KPHA



Public Health promotes and protects the health of people and the communities where they live, learn, work and play. Public health saves money, improves quality of life, helps children thrive and reduces human suffering. The Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) recently recognized the

following professionals at the 2015 Annual Conference for their service and commitment to public health in Kansas.

The **KPHA Award** recipients are:

- Samuel J. Crumbine Medal: Robert Moser, MD
- Dorothy Woodin Public Health Nursing Award: Georgetta Schoenfield, RN, BSN
- Jane Addams, Social Work Award: Sherry Vierthaler, LBSW
- Special Service Award: Michael Cates, DVM, MPH
- Corporate Service Award: Oral Health Kansas Inc.
- Public Health Policy Makers of the Year: City of Wichita
- President's Award: Tanya Honderick, RN, MS, MPH, PHCNS-BC

Regional Public Health Meetings Scheduled

by Teri Caudle, Public Health Specialist, Local Public Health Program

Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE



Don't miss the opportunity to attend one of the upcoming regional public health meetings aimed to connect local health departments (LHD) with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. These meetings are designed for the local LHD administrator, however any staff person interested in a particular topic is welcome to attend. Register on KS-TRAIN <http://ks.train.org>,

Course ID #1059355

The agenda includes the following: Leadership at Regional Training; Sonja Armbruster, Director of Public Health Initiatives and Seth Bate, Director of Leadership Development, Center for Community Support and Research and Kansas Alliance for Wellness-Mobilizing Communities to Support Healthy, Local Food; Missty Lechner, Advocacy Project Director, American Heart/Stroke Association.

The dates and locations are:

- SE Region, Chanute - October 1
- SC Region, Hutchinson - November 4
- NW Region, Oakley - November 19
- SW Region, Garden City - November 20
- NC Region, Beloit - December 2
- NE Region, Topeka - December 8

If you have ideas for regional meeting topics please contact Teri Caudle at tcaudle@kdheks.gov

Celebrate National Rural Health Day

by the Office of Primary Care & Rural Health, KDHE



Join the Kansas Office of Primary Care and Rural Health in Celebrating the Power of Rural during the fifth annual National Rural Health Day celebration on Thursday, November 19. Events recognizing National Rural Health Day are being planned throughout the nation to bring to light the unique health care challenges that rural citizens face – and showcase the efforts of rural health care providers and other rural

stakeholders to address those challenges. Additional information and ideas on how to celebrate can be found on the following website: www.celebratepowerofrural.org.

Does your rural organization or community have success stories to share? How are you planning to celebrate National Rural Health Day? Let the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health know at ruralhealth@kdheks.gov!

Register for Kansas Evidence-Based Public Health Course

by Ginger Park, Communications Manager,
Bureau of Health Promotions, KDHE



Evidence-based interventions are critical to achieving successful public health outcomes, a skilled and adaptable workforce, and more efficient and effective use of resources. The Kansas Evidence-Based Public Health: A Course for Local and State Practitioners will be held Nov. 17 and 18 at the Topeka Ramada Downtown Hotel and Convention Center. The registration deadline is Oct. 16.

This training is offered by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Health Promotion in collaboration with the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Adapted from the Prevention Research Center in St. Louis' Evidence-Based Public Health Course, the Kansas course features state specific data, insight from successful Kansas initiatives and guidance from instructors who practice public health in Kansas.

As state and local health departments prepare for public health accreditation, the topics, techniques and tools provided through this course will enhance current understanding of principles of health assessment, improvement planning and evaluation. The course will cover the following themes:

- Selecting Evidence-Based Interventions
- Action Plans for Results
- Quantitative Evaluation
- Using Qualitative Data
- Prioritizing Program & Policy
- Economics of Prevention

Registered participants are expected to attend a series of six 30 to 45 minute webinars prior to the in-person course in Topeka. Webinars will be pre-recorded and accessible via KS-TRAIN in mid-October.

While there is not a fee associated with this training, all course participants are responsible for their own expenses including travel and hotel. Lunch will be provided both days. Continuing education units are available.

To register complete the application form by clicking on the logo above.

CDC Launches New eBook, a Story of Health

from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



This new eBook from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is an interactive document with multiple chapters that features prompts for embedded information and links to online resources on how to promote health and prevent disease. "A Story of Health" is an interactive eBook that explains the many factors that influence our health across our lifetime such as:

- The natural and built environment
- Chemicals and other contaminants
- The air we breathe
- The food we eat
- The water we drink
- Economic and social considerations

"A Story of Health" looks at how these different factors interact with each other and with our genetic make-up. We may not think about the factors that influence our health across our lifetime unless faced with a reason to do so. The reason may be prompted by a doctor's visit, the birth of a child, caring for an elderly parent, or dealing with personal illness. We may ask how or why did this happen? In some cases, the answer is obvious. In others, it's more complicated. "A Story of Health" is a multimedia eBook that explores these questions and looks into how our environments interact with our genes to influence health across the lifespan. Each fictional case featured in "A Story of Health" shares the latest scientific research about disease origin and helpful facts about disease prevention. Colorful illustrations, graphics and videos enhance each page. Links to a wide range of additional resources and hundreds of scientific papers enrich each story with information you can use today to promote health and prevent disease.

"A Story of Health" is the result of a collaboration among the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), the Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE), the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), California Environmental Program Agency (CalEPA), the Science and Environmental Health Network (SEHN), and the University of California Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU).

Free continuing education credits are also available for health professionals from the CDC and ASTDR. Each story is accredited separately with information available in the eBook. Register for credits [here](#).

To download your free copy of the eBook click the image above.

Influenza (Flu)

From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: What you should know for the 2015-2016 Influenza Season, including who should be vaccinated, benefits... [More >](#)

CCSR Directs Rising Stars for Riley County Health Department Afternoon Matinee: PHAB - Journey on the Road of Excellence

*by Brenda Nickel, Director, Riley County Health Department
Sonja Armbruster, Center for Community Support and Research,
Wichita State University*



Riley Commissioners and County Counselor, Public Health Advisory Council, and students from Washburn and Kansas State University joined the Riley County Health Department staff on September 1, for a three-hour in-service session on public health accreditation. The three-hour movie-themed work session was facilitated by Sonja Armbruster, Center for Community Support and Research at Wichita State University. The work session included information about the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) standards and measures, and conducting an agency readiness self-assessment.

The Riley County Health Department Accreditation Coordinator, Jessica Fiscus and Director, Brenda Nickel planned the session with Sonja. Members of the department's accreditation team, Lisa Ross and Breva Spencer, were instrumental in creating interactive ice breakers, as well as decorations to help the entire "cast" get into the spirit of accreditation. The training concluded with the staff identifying what starring role they could have in any of the 12 domains.

Second Chance Breakfast a Success at Field Kindley High School in Coffeyville

by Marley Sugar, Health & Wellness Program Manager, Midwest Dairy Council



Millions of youth do not eat breakfast on any given day. Breakfast directly contributes to the health and development of children's bodies and healthy habits, and skipping breakfast can have immediate negative effects on cognitive abilities, especially for children at nutritional risk. Did you know that children who eat breakfast every morning score an average of 17.5% higher on standardized math tests than those who don't start the day off with a healthy meal? Second chance breakfast allows students to get breakfast after their first period. A mid-morning breakfast gives students a nutritious choice and encourages students to make breakfast part of their daily routine.

Pam Lane, the USD 445 Coffeyville School Nutrition Director, had always wanted to implement a second chance breakfast opportunity to reach more high school students. Traditional breakfast service is early in the morning, before the school day begins, and she noticed that her high school students were forgoing the most important meal of the day. Pam needed a mobile computer laptop to move her breakfast service into the hallway, but the district did not have the extra funding to support this need. Pam applied and received a grant through the Midwest Dairy Council Grants to Grow School Meals program for the 2014/2015 school year. This grant allowed her to purchase a computer for the point of sale (POS) system and a small cart to serve breakfast in common areas.

Pam reported that the program more than doubled their breakfast participation during the first month of the new service method. Pam shared that the district ended up providing her department with a second computer because of the large volume of students. They couldn't get the students through one line quick enough, so they quickly expanded to two service lines to adjust to the large volume of students now eating breakfast. As a result of implementing the Second Chance Breakfast program an additional 20,013 breakfast meals were sold.

ACCREDITATION CORNER

Roadmap to a Culture of Quality Improvement

from the NACCHO website



Regular and systematic assessments are intended to provide a foundation for developing a culture of quality by providing an understanding of the current culture, identifying strengths and areas for improvement, and prioritizing key actions to further progress. Discussion generated by completing an assessment provides significant insights into organizational performance and alignment of organization-wide initiatives. Communicating the results can help clarify organizational direction and provide a common basis and language for collective sharing and learning. The National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) offers two options for assessing an organization's current culture of quality – the Organizational Culture of Quality Self-Assessment Tool (SAT) and Roadmap to a Culture of Quality website. Both tools are based on the six foundational elements of a culture of quality and assess the breadth of the components of a culture of quality. Click the image to navigate to the Roadmap website.

Academic Health Department Mentorship Program Now Open

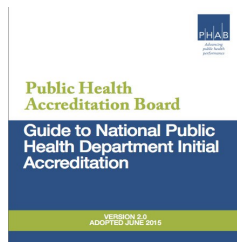
from the PHF website



With the launch of the [Academic Health Department \(AHD\) Mentorship Program](#), the newest initiative of the [Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice](#) is now a reality. Developed within the existing [AHD Learning Community](#) in response to feedback from Learning Community members, the AHD Mentorship Program aims to foster the development, maintenance and expansion of [AHDs](#) by building ongoing mentoring relationships between individuals involved in AHD efforts. [Get involved and learn more about the program](#) in Kathleen Amos' latest Public Health Foundation Pulse Blog post.

PHAB Announces Changes to the Accreditation Process

from the PHAB website



A new Guide to National Public Health Department Initial Accreditation was adopted by the Board of Directors of the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) this summer. The Guide contains a number of policy and process revisions. Health departments considering or working toward accreditation should carefully review the new Guide to National Public Health Department Initial Accreditation. [A PDF copy of the Guide is available here](#). Printed copies are available for purchase in PHAB's [online store](#). A table of effective dates of various policy and process changes may be [accessed here](#).

While the overall process for accreditation has not changed, a number of policies have been revised and others newly adopted. The previous Guide was adopted in 2011 and, based on evaluations and learning over the past few years, required revisions. The process for health departments to seek accreditation is significantly improved with the adoption of the new Guide. Implementation of most of the revisions of the process in the Guide require that changes be made in PHAB's information system, e-PHAB. The e-PHAB changes will be complete and ready for implementation on February 1, 2016. Other changes in policy were effective September 1. [See the table](#) for effective dates of the various changes in the accreditation process.

The development of the new and revised policies was steered by PHAB's Accreditation Improvement Committee. The members of this Committee represent state, local and Tribal public health departments. Proposed revisions were vetted with the public health community and comments were carefully considered by the Committee. Please refer to Appendix 1 and 2 of the Guide for an overview of the revised process. Contact Robin Wilcox, Chief Program Officer, at rwilcox@phaboard.org with any questions.

Assisting Vector Control Programs Through Performance Improvement Initiative

from the PHF website



Since August 2014, the Public Health Foundation (PHF) has been collaborating with the National Center for Environmental Health of the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) on the [Vector Control Performance Assessment and Improvement Initiative](#). The idea originated from CDC's desire to help vector control programs at local health departments improve their performance using self-assessment and quality improvement (QI) tools. With funding from CDC, PHF assisted 13 local health departments to increase their vector control programs' efficiency, effectiveness, and capacity. [Learn more about the program and what accomplishments have been made to date](#).

Funding Opportunities

Funding Opportunity for LHD Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing Programs - Deadline October 30



The Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD) and Kansas Health Institute (KHI) are pleased to announce a funding opportunity for health departments throughout Kansas looking to explore, implement or improve a cross-jurisdictional sharing (CJS) arrangement. CJS arrangements allow counties to work together to deliver essential public health services. By pooling resources and creating economies of scale, public health officials and policymakers can improve effectiveness and efficiency. KHI and KALHD will select up to four Kansas teams, which include at least two jurisdictions, to receive up to \$10,000 starting January 1, 2016. Visit KHI's [website](#) for more information and to download the full RFP. The deadline for the proposal is Friday, October 30, 5:00 p.m. Please email Sarah Hartsig at shartsig@khi.org with questions.

RWJF Culture of Health Prize: 2016 Call for Applications - Deadline November 12



Up to 10 winning communities will each receive a \$25,000 cash prize and have their success stories celebrated and shared broadly to inspire locally-driven change across the nation. Applications will be accepted August 10 through November 12 at 2 p.m. by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF). Communities should understand they are applying for a prize and not a grant. The Prize recognizes work that has already been accomplished. Click the RWJF logo to learn more.

Training and Conference Announcements



The Kansas Immunization Conference in Wichita, Oct. 6 - 8 is still accepting registrations. Click the conference logo to access the [conference details](#). Additional hotel rooms are at the [Best Western](#), 6815 W. Kellogg, 316-942-5600.

Kansas Built Environment and Outdoors Summit - October 13 - 15



The [Kansas Built Environment and Outdoors Summit](#), October 13 - 15 in Overland Park creates an experience that allows stakeholders and advocates to accelerate their efforts to improve the built environment and thereby improve health. The built environment refers to the ways in which the structures and systems of a community – whether a large city or small rural town – guides the countless daily decisions that contribute to overall health and well-being. Select the logo to learn more and to register.

Infection Prevention and Control Conference - Rapid & Radical Response - October 23



The [Greater Kansas City Chapter of the Association of Professionals in Infection Control \(APIC\)](#) and [Epidemiology](#) is hosting their annual infection prevention conference, October 23, Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center in Independence, MO. The keynote speaker is Sue Dill Calloway, RN, MSN, JD, CPHRM, CCMSCP, a nurse attorney and president of Patient Safety and Healthcare Consulting and Education; and former chief learning officer and current board member of the Emergency Medicine Patient Safety Foundation.

The focus of this conference will be on the elements of infection prevention practice that require both immediate attention and adaptability. Calloway will discuss the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Interpretive Guidelines on Infection Control and the revised CMS Infection Control Worksheet. Additional topics will include infection prevention during construction, value-based purchasing, an emerging disease update, the infection control risk assessment process, how to affect change in management and organizations, and a question and answer session with experts on these topics. For more information click the APIC logo.

Partnering for Health Conference



The 5th Annual Conference "We're in this Together: Partnering for Health" will be held on Tuesday, October 27, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the [Kauffman Foundation Conference Center](#) in Kansas City, MO. This free event will highlight partnerships and encourage open discussion among the faith-based community, academic health centers, local health departments, community health workers and community-based service organizations.

Please mark your calendar to attend and engage with other local health researchers, community-based organizations, and public health professionals to address health disparities in our communities. Click the KU Medical Center logo for more information.

Worksite Wellness Training for Local Public Health - November 2



[WorkWellKS](#) will be offering an Establishing the Worksite Wellness Foundation workshop specifically for Kansas local health department employee teams. The free workshop will be from 11:45 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Hutchinson, November 2. The workshop will be held at the Reno County Courthouse, in the Veterans Room, 206 W 1st Ave. Lunch will be provided.

This workshop will help attendees develop and/or strengthen local health departments' infrastructure to develop and support successful worksite wellness initiatives. The workshop is being conducted specifically for local health department (LHD) teams as WorkWellKS recognizes that LHDs strive to improve the health of their own employees while also serving as a model and support for area worksites. Click the WorkWellKS logo to register for this event. For an overview of the workshop, view the 20 minute [introductory webinar](#).



Registration is Open for the 2015 Oral Health Kansas Conference - November 12 - 14

The 2015 Oral Health Kansas Conference is November 12-14 at the Olathe K-State University campus. The goal of the conference is to engage oral health advocates and practitioners in a thoughtful conversation about what health equity means and how to remove barriers for underserved people. Participants will learn more about the current efforts in Kansas and across the country to build a strong network of individuals and organizations who are catalysts for change and who are ready to improve the oral health of all people. For more information click the Oral Health image.

Local Public Health Leadership Series



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD) are offering a leadership development opportunity for all local and state public health professionals in Manhattan.

The purpose of the Local Public Health Leadership Series is to enhance the ability of local health department administrators and staff to exercise leadership in the delivery of Medicaid services to residents in their communities.

Leadership involves mobilizing others, sometimes without direct authority to do so, in an effort to address difficult community challenges. These difficult, daunting, adaptive challenges don't have a single expert or manager that can fix them. Progress can be made to address adaptive challenges but it will require learning, involvement of stakeholders and persistent efforts. Public health professionals are in key positions to provide this kind of leadership.

The Local Public Health Leadership Series will develop core knowledge and skills related to identifying and responding to adaptive challenges. The focus will be on development of leadership competencies identified by the Kansas Leadership Center: Diagnosing the Situation, Managing Self, Energizing Others and Intervening Skillfully. The Wichita State University Center for Community Support and Research (WSU-CCSR) will serve as faculty and coaches for the series which is modeled after the Kansas Leadership Center's training curriculum and methods. If you want to know more, email Seth Bate at seth.bate@wichita.edu or Sonja Armbruster at Sonja.armbruster@wichita.edu.

The application can be accessed by clicking on the logo. Send the completed application to kristina.helmer@wichita.edu by November 20.

New Learning Opportunities Available on KS-TRAIN

IT Security Awareness Training, Course ID #1059437 presents information necessary for information technology (IT) system managers, administrators, and users to demonstrate awareness of system security requirements and discuss user's responsibility to protect IT systems and data.



KDHE: Bloodborne Pathogen (BBP) Exposure Control Training, Course ID #1058509 was created for Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) field staff, but is available for viewing by the public health and safety workforce who may be at risk for exposure. Included in this course is the KDHE Exposure Control Plan. We recommend that you review your organization's exposure control plan after completing this course.

Introduction to Quality Improvement in Public Health, Course ID #1059243 is a 30 minute introductory online course to provide public health professionals the basic concepts of quality improvement. Quality Improvement (QI) helps public health effectively and efficiently identify and address problems and improve solutions. It is recommended that learners taking this course have foundational training on what is public health such as the **Fundamentals of Kansas Public Health Module 1: Overview of the Kansas System**, Course ID #1056214.

Upon completion of the Introduction to Quality Improvement in Public Health, you will be able to:

- Define quality improvement
- Identify the role quality improvement plays in public health
- Explain the Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) cycle

Health Literacy Training Plan



CDC TRAIN and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Health Literacy program collaborated to create a national health literacy training plan. Upon completion of this training plan, you will be able to better understand the importance of health literacy and apply health literacy principles in your public health work. The first course of the training plan is CDC's Health Literacy for Public Health Professionals. After completion, you can select one or more of the following courses to complete the plan: Writing for the Public; Speaking for the Public; Using Numbers and Explaining Risk; and Creating Easier to Understand Lists, Charts and Graphs. Click the logo to access the plan.

New CDC TRAIN Course Focuses on Older Adult Fall Prevention - STEADI



Every 13 seconds an older adult is seen in an emergency department because of a fall. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention developed the Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries Initiative (STEADI) to help public health and health care providers incorporate fall prevention into their organizations' education practices. The goal is to reduce falls among older adults and to help them remain healthy, active, and independent as long as possible. This course is on TRAIN at

<http://ks.train.org>, Course ID #1057539, incorporates interactive case-based examples and offers free continuing education.

Guidelines for the Use of Modified Health Care Protocols in Acute Care Hospitals During Disasters



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment worked with a panel of experts to revise the existing modified health care protocols originally created in 2009 and most recently revised in 2013. [Guidelines for the Use of Modified Health Care Protocols in Acute Care Hospitals During Disasters](#), Course ID #1054103 on KS-TRAIN is a 45 minute online education opportunity to raise awareness of the protocols and ensure they are integrated into preparedness plans. This educational activity is intended for hospital executives, public health executives, chiefs of staff, chief medical officers, chief nursing officers, physicians and nurses, emergency medical services personnel, EMS directors and EMS medical directors, risk managers, pharmacists and others in positions to respond to catastrophic events or major disease outbreaks.

At the conclusion of this event, participants will be able to:

1. Describe disaster and public health emergency scenarios in which modified protocols of care might be considered for use in acute care hospitals.
2. Present information on modified health care protocols for use during disasters to their professional colleagues
3. Explain why it is important to be aware that modified health care protocols are in place to assist in the event of an overwhelming catastrophe or pandemic.

New CDC Quick-Learn Lesson: A Brief Introduction to Data Cleaning



This new Quick-Learn Lesson is created with responsive Web design so that it is easy to view from any device that can access the Internet. Have a few minutes to spare? Access this course and learn to identify the common errors in data reporting and describe the importance of maintaining accurate data throughout the data collection process. [A Brief Introduction to Data Cleaning](#), Course ID #1058061 is on [KS-TRAIN](#).

Online Back-to-School Communications Toolkit Now Available



In an effort to help raise awareness and share information about how dairy and breakfast can set kids up for a successful new school year, Midwest Dairy Council has created an online Back-to-School Communications Toolkit. The online toolkit resources are downloadable and include: talking points, a customizable news release and web/blog content, dairy Q&A, nutrition fact sheets, featured recipes, graphics and a social media calendar. This fall, spread the message that dairy makes sense for breakfast by using this back-to-school toolkit. Click the logo for more information.

News and Resources

Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. The next call will be October 27. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.

Multi-Jurisdictional Sharing Across Kansas Public Health Agencies



The Kansas Health Institute recently published case studies for three cross-jurisdictional sharing (CJS) arrangements across Kansas with the commitment to delivering essential public health services effectively and efficiently. CJS is the deliberate exercise of public authority to enable collaboration across jurisdictional (such as county) boundaries. CJS can increase effectiveness and efficiency by allowing public health officials and policymakers to pool resources with other jurisdictions in order to make a larger impact. The case studies describe how the CJS programs were developed, challenges they encountered, benefits and their key to success. The full case studies can be viewed at <http://www.khi.org/topics/category/public-health-systems-services>. Look for a fourth case study to be published soon. Please email Sarah Hartsig at shartsig@khi.org with questions.

Coalitions Striving to Increase Access to Health and Nutrition



The [Plan4Health](#) community envisions the full integration of planning and public health where we live, work, and play. Through an overarching collaborative strategy that brings together members of the [American Planning Association](#) (APA) and the [American Public Health Association](#) (APHA), the Plan4Health project aims to build local capacity to address population health goals and promote the inclusion of health in non-traditional sectors. Coalitions made up of APA chapters, APHA affiliate groups, and others will work to set a new paradigm for healthy planning. By leveraging complementary expertise and influence, this project seeks to expand innovative tactics to address tough problems.



Free Program for Patients Living With Type 2 Diabetes

The “Where Do I Begin?” booklet will give patients an introduction to diabetes and the information they have been looking for when they’ve just been diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes. Patients can also enroll in Living with Type 2 Diabetes, a free 12-month long program that provides information, health recipes, tools and support. Patients can enroll

in one of three ways:

- Returning the completed Business Reply Card found in the “Where Do I Begin?” booklet
- Going online to diabetes.org/freeprogram
- Calling 1-800-DIABETES or 1-800-342-2383

You may order booklets at diabetes.org/atdx. If you have any questions, you may contact LWT2D@diabetes.org.

Corps Community Month



During the month of October, the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) will celebrate its annual Corps Community Month. Now in its fifth year, Corps Community Month will once again increase awareness of primary care careers as well as highlight the NHSC’s role in bringing primary health care services to communities that need them the most.

This year’s theme is Training. Access. Delivery. Health., which will provide a month-long platform to share best practices and resources with the greater primary care community.

To celebrate this year’s theme, NHSC sites, scholars, providers, Ambassadors and alumni; national and state partners; and health professions’ schools are encouraged to host grassroots events throughout the month of October. Resources and materials can be found on the NHSC website to help you plan, promote and host your event. Click the logo for more information.

B.C. Launching Carrot Rewards Program to Encourage Healthy Living



Staying in shape and eating right will soon pay off in British Columbia (B.C.), Canada, where an initiative is in the works to reward people with collector points for healthy-lifestyle choices, says Health Minister Terry Lake. B.C. is set to launch a joint federal-provincial healthy living program that will allow participants to earn loyalty points -- similar to programs used by airlines and credit card companies. B.C. will invest \$2.5 million in the program, while the federal government will contribute \$5 million. Also involved are the Heart and Stroke Foundation, the Canadian Diabetes Association, YMCA Canada and Social Change Rewards. The program will require participants to download a Carrot Rewards online application. To learn more about this innovative wellness program click the Health image.

APHA Announces Flu Near You eCards



Get Ready

The American Public Health Association’s (APHA) Get Ready campaign helps Americans prepare themselves, their families and their communities for all disasters and hazards, including pandemic flu, infectious disease, natural disasters and other emergencies. This year APHA has free [Flu Near You eCards](#) that can be sent to family, friends and the general public. Check out the eCards by clicking the Get Ready logo.

More College Students Use Marijuana Daily, Study Finds



College students in the U.S. are now more likely to smoke marijuana on a daily basis than cigarettes, as pot-smoking rates continue to climb, according to the results of a nationwide survey released Tuesday. The University of Michigan researchers also found that more students reported using e-cigarettes and other types of tobacco such as water pipes called hookahs. But they said student use of these alternatives to traditional smoking are relatively new and had yet to be fully tracked.

Adult Bike Injuries on the Rise, Especially for Guys Over 45



More U.S. adults are getting hurt on bikes – probably because more of them, especially middle-aged and older men, are riding bikes, a new study shows. The study, published in The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), suggests some recent high-profile bike accidents involving famous men – Secretary of State John Kerry, 71, who was injured in France, and rock star Bono, 55, who was injured riding in New York – are part of a bigger trend.

What Really Happens on America’s Dairy Farms



Unsure of what’s fact and what’s fiction when it comes to the dairy industry? You’re not alone. DairyGood.org presents a behind-the-scenes look at what really happens on America’s dairy farms. This website provides tips on dairy benefits, facts and myths, recipes, stories about American dairy farmers and much more. Click the logo to learn more.

New CVS Data Shows Reduction in Cigarette Purchases Across All Retailers



In September CVS Health marked the first anniversary of ending tobacco sales at CVS/pharmacy by releasing new data showing a measurable reduction in cigarette purchases over the past year. The company also announced it is renewing its commitment to creating a tobacco-free generation through a joint initiative between CVS Health, its Foundation and Scholastic to launch a school-based tobacco-prevention program. The study, conducted by the CVS Health Research Institute, evaluated cigarette pack purchases at drug, food, big box, dollar, convenience and gas station retailers in the eight months after CVS/pharmacy stopped selling tobacco products. The study found an additional one percent reduction in cigarette pack sales in states where CVS/pharmacy had a 15 percent or greater share of the retail pharmacy market, compared to states with no CVS/pharmacy stores. Over the same eight-month period, the average smoker in these states purchased five fewer cigarette packs and, in total, approximately 95 million fewer packs were sold.

Can I Eat This - A Gastronomical App



Montezuma's revenge, Delhi belly, or travelers' diarrhea — whatever you call it, it can ruin your international trip. Help prevent travelers' diarrhea by using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's, Can I Eat This? app. Select the country you're in, answer a few simple questions about what you're thinking about eating or drinking, and Can I Eat This? will tell you whether it's likely to be safe. With the Can I Eat This? app, you can be more confident that your food and drink choices won't make you spend your international trip in the bathroom.

Surgeon General Calls for a National Walking Campaign



U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy called in September for a national campaign centered on walking, an effort he said is intended to combat chronic disease and obesity, and to surmount obstacles that stand in the way of simply taking a walk. His "call to action" seeks to make walking a national priority, promote development of communities where it is safe and easy to walk, develop walking programs, and conduct research on walking. "We've really lost touch with physical activity," Murthy said in an [interview](#). "It has slowly vanished from the workplace. More and more kids in school don't have time to exercise." The time has come, he said, to build activity back into our daily lives, and walking is one of the easiest and most available forms for most people. Click

the image to learn about the Surgeon General's call to action to promote walking, walkable communities and to access education resources.

Half of Americans Have Diabetes or Pre-Diabetes



About half of all Americans have either diabetes or pre-diabetes, according to a [new report](#) from the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA). And experts in the field say that's *good* news. That's because the study finds that after two decades of linear growth, the prevalence of diabetes in the United States has finally started to plateau. In a paper published in September, the authors write that their findings are consistent with other studies that show the percentage of people with diagnosed diabetes remained steady from 2008 to 2012. "Although obesity and Type 2 diabetes remain major clinical and public health problems in the United States, the current data provide a glimmer of hope," wrote William Herman and Amy Rothberg of the University of Michigan in an article accompanying the paper.

Aim for at Least 7 Hours of Sleep Nightly to Fend Off a Cold



The viruses that cause the common cold are always lurking. But consider this, even if we touch a doorknob or keyboard that's covered in cold germs from an infected person, we don't always catch the cold. "Sometimes when we're exposed to viruses, we end up not getting sick," says [Aric Prather](#), a psychologist at the University of California, San Francisco, who studies how our behaviors can influence our health. Our immune systems often fend off the viruses that cause colds. But, how well our bodies mount this [defense can vary](#).

Public Health Communication is Changing - Are We



Public health isn't just epidemiology, science, research and prevention. It's also communication, and the words that public health uses, can and do, save lives, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Association Director for Communication Katherine Lyon Daniel, PhD. If we have to use different words to help people understand, value and support what we actually do, then we have to find those words. It's the work behind the words "public health" that is vital to ensuring the health, safety and security of the American people. Click the logo to read the complete article.

Job Postings

Applications are being accepted for the positions listed below.

Barton

- [Public Health Nurse \(Maternal & Infant\)](#)

Douglas County

- [Public Health Nurse](#)
- [WIC Supervisor](#)

Franklin County Health Department

- [Registered Nurse \(PT\) \(20 Hrs. week\)](#)

Geary County

- [Nurse Practitioner \(APRN\)](#)

Kansas State University

- [MPH Director](#)

Konza Prairie Community Health and Dental Center

- [Clinical Psychologist or LCSW](#)

Reno County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse Stand by \(PRN\)](#)
- [Public Health Nurse-Full Time](#)

Riley County Health Department

- [Advance Practice Registered Nurse \(APRN\)](#)

Shawnee County Health Agency

- [RN MCH Outreach \(Health Agency\)](#)

Sedwick County

- [Health - Public Health Specialist](#)

Wichita State University

- [Public Health Project Manager](#)

Wyandotte County

- [Nurse Practitioner](#)
- [Health Improvement Planning Coordinator](#)



Career opportunities at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment can be found [here](#).

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

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| Green Guide | Oral Health Newsletter |
| Health Homes Herald | What's Happening Wednesday (Immunization) |
| Kansas Environmental News | ZIPS Newsletter - Bureau of Family Health/Children and Families |
| Kansas Health Statistics Report | |
| Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program | |

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Send your public health news to
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